

The Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. - 25. (Cancelled).

26. (Previously Presented) An adjustable pedal assembly comprising:

a mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) for attachment to a vehicle structure (37);

at least one pedal (6, 7, or 8) having first and second ends and supported for pivotally moving about a first pivot axis (9) between rest and applied positions;

an adjustment element (5) pivotally supported on said mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) about a second pivot axis (4) with said second pivot axis (4) remaining fixed relative to said mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) as said adjustment element (5) pivotally moves between various adjusted positions;

said first pivot axis (9) supporting said first end of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) on said adjustment element (5) spaced from said second pivot axis (4) for pivotal movement relative to said adjustment element (5) with said first pivot axis (9) being generally parallel to said second pivot axis (4),

a drive mechanism operably connected to said adjustment element (5) for selectively rotating said adjustment element (5), said pedal (6, 7, or 8), and said first pivot axis (9) about said second pivot axis (4) between said various adjusted positions for selectively moving said pedal (6, 7, or 8) between a plurality of operable positions without pivotally moving said pedal (6, 7, or 8) about said first pivot axis (9) relative to said adjustment element (5); and

an electric signal generator responsive to pivotal movement of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) for electrically controlling a vehicle system in response to pivotal movement of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) about said first pivot axis (9) in a range between said rest and applied positions independently of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) moving between any one of said operable positions defined by said adjusted positions of said adjustment element (5) about said second pivot axis (4).

27. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth with claim 26 including a second pedal (6, 7, or 8) pivotally supported by said adjustment element (5) whereby said adjustment element (5) simultaneously adjusts the operational positions of both of said pedals.

28. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 26 wherein said electric signal generator is connected to said pedal (6, 7, or 8) and directly responsive to pivotal movement of said pedal (6, 7, or 8).

29. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 28 wherein said electric signal generator is further defined as a potentiometer (36) that emits an electric signal varying with the pivotal position of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) between said rest and applied positions about said first pivot axis (9).

30. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 28 wherein said at least one pedal (6, 7, or 8) includes an accelerator pedal (6) extending downwardly from said adjustment element (5) and terminating at an accelerator pedal pad (30).

31. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 30 wherein said adjustment element (5) adjusts an angular position of said accelerator pedal pad (30) when selectively rotated by said drive mechanism.

32. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 26 wherein said drive mechanism includes a gear assembly with a rotor element (12) that is driven by an electric motor (11).

33. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 26 wherein said second pivot axis (4) is located vertically above said first pivot axis (9).

34. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 33 wherein said adjustment element (5) maintains said first pivot axis (9) at a lower vertical position than said second pivot axis (4) at all adjusted positions.

35. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 26 wherein an angle formed between a connection line (35) extending between said first (9) and second (4) pivot axes and a vertical line (34) extending perpendicular to said second pivot axis (4) is in the range of 30° to 40°.

36. (Previously Presented) An adjustable pedal assembly comprising:
a mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) for attachment to a vehicle structure (37);
a pedal (6, 7, or 8) pivotally supported about a first pivot axis (9) for rotation between rest and applied positions about said first pivot axis (9);
an adjustment element (5) pivotally supported on said mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) about a second pivot axis (4) with said second pivot axis (4) remaining fixed relative to said mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) as said adjustment element (5) pivotally moves between various adjusted positions;
said first pivot axis (9) supporting said pedal (6, 7, or 8) on said adjustment element (5) for pivotal rotation relative to said adjustment element (5) with said first pivot axis (9) being generally parallel to said second pivot axis (4),
a drive mechanism operably connected to said adjustment element (5) for selectively rotating said adjustment element (5), said pedal (6, 7, or 8), and said first pivot axis (9) about said second pivot axis (4) between said various adjusted positions for selectively moving said pedal (6, 7, or 8) between a plurality of operable positions without pivotally rotating said pedal (6, 7, or 8) about said first pivot axis (9) relative to said adjustment element (5); and
an electric output control operatively connected to said pedal (6, 7, or 8) and directly responsive to pivotal rotation of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) about said first pivot axis (9) between said rest and applied positions for electrically controlling a vehicle system in response to pivotal rotation of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) independently of said pedal (6, 7, or

8) moving between any one of said operable positions defined by said adjusted positions of said adjustment element (5) about said second pivot axis (4).

37. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 36 wherein said pedal (6, 7, or 8) has first and second ends with said first end being mounted to said adjustment element (5) and said second end supporting a pedal pad (30, 31, or 32).

38. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 37 wherein said adjustment element (5) adjusts an angular position of said pedal pad (30, 31, or 32) when selectively rotated by said drive mechanism.

39. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 36 wherein said electric output control is further defined as a potentiometer (36) that emits an electric signal varying with the pivotal position of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) between said rest and applied positions about said first pivot axis (9).

40. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 36 wherein said second pivot axis (4) is located vertically above said first pivot axis (9).

41. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 40 wherein said adjustment element (5) maintains said first pivot axis (9) at a lower vertical position than said second pivot axis (4) at all adjusted positions.

42. (Previously Presented) An adjustable pedal assembly comprising:
a mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) for attachment to a vehicle structure (37);
a pedal (6, 7, or 8) pivotally supported about a first pivot axis (9) with respect to said mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) for rotation between rest and applied positions about said first pivot axis (9);
an adjustment element (5) pivotally supported about a second pivot axis (4) with respect to said mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) with said second pivot axis (4) remaining

fixed relative to said mounting arrangement (1, 2, 3) as said adjustment element (5) pivotally moves between various adjusted positions about said second pivot axis (4);

said first pivot axis (9) supporting said pedal (6, 7, or 8) on said adjustment element (5) with said adjustment element (5) selectively moving said pedal (6, 7, or 8) between a plurality of operable positions during said pivotal movement between said various adjusted positions about said second pivot axis (4) without pivotally rotating said pedal (6, 7, or 8) about said first pivot axis (9), said first pivot axis (9) being generally parallel to said second pivot axis (4); and

an electrical generator mounted adjacent said pedal (6, 7, or 8) and responsive to rotation of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) for emitting an electric signal that varies with said rotational position of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) between said rest and applied positions around said first pivot axis (9) independently of movement of said pedal (6, 7, or 8) between said plurality of operable positions defined by said adjusted positions of said adjustment element (5) about said second pivot axis (4).

43. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 42 wherein said pedal (6, 7, or 8) has first and second ends with said first end being mounted to said adjustment element (5) and said second end supporting a pedal pad (30, 31, or 32).

44. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 43 wherein said adjustment element (5) adjusts an angular position of said pedal pad (30, 31, or 32) during said movement between said various adjusted positions.

45. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 42 wherein said electrical generator is further defined as a potentiometer (36) for emitting the electric signal that varies with said rotational position of said pedal (6, 7, or 8).

46. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 42 further including a drive mechanism operably connected to said adjustment element (5) for selectively rotating said adjustment element (5), said pedal (6, 7, or 8), and said first pivot axis (9)

about said second pivot axis (4) between said various adjusted positions.

47. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 46 wherein said drive mechanism includes a gear assembly with a rotor element (12) that is driven by an electric motor (11).

48. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 42 wherein said second pivot axis (4) is located vertically above said first pivot axis (9).

49. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 48 wherein said adjustment element (5) maintains said first pivot axis (9) at a lower vertical position than said second pivot axis (4) at all adjusted positions.

50. (Previously Presented) An assembly as set forth in claim 42 wherein an angle formed between a connection line (35) extending between said first (9) and second (4) pivot axes and a vertical line (34) extending perpendicular to said second pivot axis (4) is in the range of 30° to 40°.